XIV. Public Buildings, Facilities, Services, and Safety

[Sidebar] Guiding Principles

A smart and connected community matters. Smart land use and design based on cohesive communities are respectful of our environment and create efficiencies that benefit community health, social interaction, commerce, and infrastructure.

Prosperity matters. Capitalizing on the innovative spirit that exists in the community will support the human, financial, and capital infrastructure needed for a sustainable and diverse economy.

Place matters. Regional growth should occur in harmony with the community's historical character, unique cultural resources, and natural environment.

People matter. All residents should be assured equal opportunities for a range of choices in housing, employment, education, health, safety, and devotion.

Trust and transparency matter. Regional community leaders, commerce, and residents expect transparency, accountability, and respect for each other in pursuit of our community vision.

Cooperation matters. Regional partnerships create a strong community, protect the environment, and achieve our common goals. [END SIDEBAR]

Serving Our People

Planning for and protecting critical infrastructure while promoting community resilience are important considerations in the timing, location, and pattern of development. Well-planned infrastructure, public facilities and services, and, safety and emergency response are keys to community civic pride and accessibility. Extreme weather events are making it increasingly important for communities to plan and be prepared to protect citizens and key infrastructure investments. Emergency and disaster preparedness considerations should factor into long-term plans involving land use and the development of transportation and water infrastructure. Infrastructure investments for purposes of these elements include police, fire, emergency services, sewage, solid waste, drainage and stormwater, local utilities, rights-of-way, easements, and public facilities including schools, public safety buildings, libraries, civic centers, and other public buildings. It is also essential to consider state and federal government services and facility needs as a means to collaboratively coordinate public safety, capital improvements, public access, transportation, and the potential for shared facilities.

[Sidebar - Helpful Terms]

"Public Services and Facilities" include police, fire, emergency services, sewage, refuse disposal, drainage, local utilities, rights-of-way, easements, and facilities for them.

"Public Buildings" include civic and community centers, public schools, libraries, police and fire stations and other public buildings.

"Safety" refers to the protection of our community from natural and artificial hazards, evacuation routes, peak load water supply requirements, minimum road widths according to function, clearances around structures, and geologic hazard mapping. [End sidebar]

Public Buildings, Facilities, and Services

<u>Resiliency Planning and Capital Improvements Coordination in Facilities, Infrastructure Systems and Services</u>

The Southwest is a region marked by rapidly changing socioeconomic and climate systems. This includes a drought that has persisted for more than a decade—exacerbated by rising temperatures, increased precipitation intensity, snowpack reductions, and other climate-related changes. The City of Flagstaff and Coconino County are on the front lines of managing impacts associated with natural hazards. Prioritizing protection and preparedness, the City and County can improve local service delivery and organizational capacity to achieve results and to demonstrate the capability of practical, cost-effective, economy-enhancing resilient and sustainable solutions.

A commitment to resiliency planning in capital improvements and services will help the region better respond to negative impacts by complementing response and relief efforts with preparedness and prevention measures. The *City of Flagstaff Resiliency and Preparedness Study* (2012) introduces a vision and path to create resilient public resources and services. Resiliency is built through awareness of how changes in climate conditions can impact the community's critical resources and in turn, the region's priorities. Preparing now for our infrastructure investments to be more resilient to these changes is fiscally responsible, while inaction now can lead to higher costs in the future.

Focusing on strengthening public infrastructure investments, the City and County will need critical functions to be resilient to climate and other disruptions, and be far better integrated with other sectors. By understanding the vulnerability and risk that the City and County face, actions can be identified that will reduce adverse impacts on public infrastructure and services.

The City and County have the opportunity to manage natural and built infrastructure and services to reduce the adverse impacts of a changing climate on government operations. Moreover, the City and County can explore comprehensive strategies to address multiple vulnerabilities. Supporting regional collaborations and adopting a policy that enhances internal preparedness initiatives are possible ways for the City and County to increase its capacity to respond across multiple infrastructure, services, and facilities.

Goal PF.1. All Work across all government operations and services to prepare for the impacts of natural and human-caused hazards.

Planning

Policy PF.1.1. Consider climate resiliency and preparedness in community planning and development to be better prepared for changing conditions.

Operational

Policy PF.1.2. Ensure all government operations support community resiliency by allocating public resources necessary for the City and County to prepare and adapt for natural and human-caused hazards.

Policy PF.1.3. Support evidence-based, ongoing assessment of the region's vulnerability and risk to changes in local climate. Incorporate future climate projections into emergency operations and hazard mitigation planning efforts.

Policy PF.1.4. Build, sustain, and leverage partnerships with local and regional stakeholders to ensure collective investment, efficient action, and shared responsibility in the building of local resiliency.

Community Engagement and Education

Policy PF.1.5. Support proactive communication and education aimed at both residents and governmental operations as a means to build individual, organizational, and community resiliency to weather-related impacts and climate disasters.

Locating Public Buildings and Facilities

The City of Flagstaff and Coconino County are committed to providing a high standard of public facilities, infrastructure, and services. This is evident throughout our community with well-maintained facilities; streets and parks; water, sewer, reclaimed water utility and environmental services; and appropriately located community buildings that enhance and reinforce commitment to community and local identity. The approach to locating buildings and facilities differs between the City and County.

City of Flagstaff

The City of Flagstaff's approach is to be space-efficient by consolidating administration, public works, and services under "one roof" as much as possible. The City's established guiding principles to building and facility locations are as follows:

- Location, perception and image promotes stability of city
- Site consolidations enhances city services
- Adaptability and functionality provides efficient use of assets
- Economic business factors justifies operational benefits investment
- Sustainable building practices and proper maintenance ensures optimal health, efficiency, and production

Coconino County

Coconino County's approach focuses on customer service and the concept of "one-stop shops" with six campuses in the greater Flagstaff area that consolidate related services in existing buildings and some new construction. The County's established guiding principles to building and facility locations are as follows:

- Efficiency
- Environmentally and culturally sound
- Governance
- Sustainable building practices and proper maintenance ensures optimal health, efficiency, and production

Other Public Facilities

The term "public service provider" includes not only the City of Flagstaff and Coconino County, but all entities (public or private) with infrastructure that may serve populations beyond the regional boundaries. State, and federal, educational institutions and private or franchise utility companies design, install, and maintain facilities across the region. While not directly responsible for the provision of these services, the

City and County have an important role in coordinating with utility entities in the planning and coordination of future public facilities and services.

Airport - The Flagstaff Pulliam Airport is located 4 miles south of downtown Flagstaff and serves as the only regional airport in northern Arizona. The airport property occupies 795 acres, which is mostly used for aviation and support facilities. The growth of the Flagstaff region is expected to continue to drive an increase of air traffic demand and quantity, requiring multi-modal transportation connections. Ensuring safety and minimizing land use conflicts is a concern for both the airport and the community. The potential for business park growth is substantial around the airport, and a specific area plan will address land use planning, zoning, and building regulations that encourage appropriate development mutually compatible with airport operations and noise, and that also protect public investment and address community concerns.

The **Flagstaff Municipal Court** and Coconino **County Superior Court** are both located in downtown Flagstaff. There is an identified need to replace the Municipal Court facilities; the Superior Court is housed in a historic structure that has received considerable renovation and expansion.

The **Cinder Lake Landfill** is a 343-acre municipal solid waste landfill providing disposal services to the City of Flagstaff and Coconino County. In March 1999 the City purchased the landfill property (175 acres) plus an additional 168 acres from the U.S. Forest Service. The landfill is expected to have a useful life of approximately 40 years. With the existing recycling program in place, the life expectancy of the facility could be extended approximately four to ten years. Federal and state regulations make it challenging to successfully site new landfill facilities; therefore it remains a top priority to explore efficient and realistic methods of extending the useful life of this facility.

The **Woody Mountain Material Landfill** is operated through a conditional use permit from the U.S. Forest Service. The site provides alternative disposal options for customers disposing of inert material (concrete, rock, and soil) and thereby is helping to extend the life of the Cinder Lake Landfill.

The **Materials Recovery Facility**, located at 1800 Butler Avenue, was built in 1998 as part of a full-scale recycling program in Flagstaff. The facility is 30,000 square feet and handles 80 tons per day with two shifts. Curbside recycling began in Flagstaff in 1998, and materials to be recycled include aluminum, steel, newspapers, office paper, cardboard, magazines, boxboard, and many plastics. Curbside containers are provided to residents and businesses, and emptied by a collection truck weekly. In 2011, curbside glass recycling service was added. Glass is ground up and used as part of the alternative daily cover mix on the landfill to prevent additional pollution.

City Reclamation and Wastewater Treatment Plants produce high-quality Class A+ reclaimed water at both of the city's wastewater treatment plants – Rio de Flag and Wildcat Hill. The Wildcat Hill plant primarily supplies reclaimed irrigation water to golf courses and recreational areas on the east side of Flagstaff, while The Rio de Flag plant supplies most public schools and parks, cemeteries, public landscapes, and residences. Both plants are interconnected to the reclaimed system to provide a more reliable level of service and redundancy. Reclaimed water is one of the most significant water conservation tools the City employs, with over 2,000 acre-feet of reclaimed water used each year for irrigation. New customers continue to come on line.

Educational Facilities including the Flagstaff Unified School District, various charter schools, Coconino Community College, and Northern Arizona University all play important roles in educating the community, providing thousands of jobs, and serving as community centers for the neighborhoods in which they reside.

The **Flagstaff Coconino County Public Library** has two facilities – one downtown and one east side location on Fourth Street. These shared facilities are highly used and utilize one bookmobile for rural locations.

Public Infrastructure includes roads, potable water, reclaimed water, sewer, and stormwater collection systems. Parks and recreation facilities, public transit buses, sidewalks, the Flagstaff Urban Trail System (FUTS) and public housing are also considered public infrastructure. These systems are paid for by development and public monies to supply the community and provide a community good. Private infrastructure includes natural gas, power, data, and telephone service. All of these infrastructure systems require capital investment as well as operation and maintenance.

Goals and Policies

Goal PF.2. Provide sustainable and equitable public facilities, services, and infrastructure systems in an efficient and effective manner to server all population areas and demographics.

Policy PF.2.1. Prioritize infrastructure upgrades to encourage redevelopment and infill and meet land use goals.

Strategy PF.2.1.1. Use the Capital Improvements Program to fulfill the vision of the Regional Plan.

Policy PF.2.2. Ensure that new developments pay their fair share toward the cost of additional capital improvements, infrastructur, and public service needs created by the development.

Policy PF.2.3. Provide accessible public facilities and services in strategic locations.

Policy PF.2.4. Support Enhanced Civic Design¹ for all public facilities.

Policy PF.2.5. Pursue cooperative and coordinated planning between government jurisdictions, agencies, educational institutions, non-profits, and private service providers.

Public Safety

Emergency Preparedness

Emergency Management

Law Enforcement

[Put this in a sidebar] The mission of the Flagstaff Police Department is to protect and preserve life, property, public order, and the rights of the individual by providing exemplary service through the establishment of a partnership of shared responsibility, support, and trust with law abiding members of the community. We accomplish our mission through prevention of crime and disorder using community policing programs, data-driven decision making, and intelligence-led policing and other proactive tactics meant to suppress crime and apprehend criminal offenders. [End sidebar]

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¹ Enhanced Civic Design:

The Flagstaff Police Department includes the patrol division, criminal investigations, community relations, and support services. The Department maintains a regional SWAT team, an explosives response team, and a hostage negotiations team. The Department will remain committed to performance policing, meaning it will allocate resources for crime prevention as opposed to responding to crime after it has occurred. Flagstaff Police is also committed to evidence-based management, being proactive on homeland security and hometown security, and remaining flexible and responsive to evolving legislation, climate changes, and modern police concepts and methods.

[County Sherriff's Office?]

Fire

The Flagstaff Fire Department is a highly professional organization made up of 90 dedicated professionals dispersed among six strategically located fire stations, a wildland fire management station, and fire administration. The Flagstaff Fire Department and the region's partnering fire agencies and districts are committed to protecting life, property, and community resources through preparation, prevention, response, and mitigation.

Put this in a sidebar:

Preparation - Training is vital to providing quality service in a changing community. The regional fire training facility allows for the Flagstaff Fire Department to train new recruits, train in many different situations within the organization, and train in coordination with surrounding fire districts, law enforcement agencies, EMS, and educational institutions.

Prevention - Protecting life and property through prevention efforts is achieved through code enforcement, public education efforts, fire investigations, and the developmental process.

Response - Effective emergency and fire services require that personnel arrive quickly to save lives or property. As the region grows geographically, longer travel distances will be required while population growth will increase the number of calls for service. The region should continue to focus considerable effort in areas that can improve fire service response time.

Mitigation - Wildfire and post fire flooding present the number one risk to the greater Flagstaff community. Three factors influence the spread of wildfire: fuel, weather, and topography. Of these, the Flagstaff Fire Department and its partnering agencies can manage the fuel. Properly planned forest treatments have a significant effect on slowing and decreasing fire severity and subsequent flooding. Through public awareness efforts and enforcement, we can help reduce the threat of human-caused fires. [End sidebar]

Goal PF.3. Ensure the provision of high-quality emergency response and public safety services including law enforcement, fire, medical, and ambulance transport service.

Policy PF.3.1. Maintain high-quality effectiveness and efficiency in law enforcement, fire, and emergency services to the extent that is consistent with governmental operations, plans, public policies, population served, and monies available.

Policy PF.3.2. Locate City of Flagstaff and rural fire districts within the optimal response time for new and existing development.

Policy PF.3.3. Locate law enforcement facilities (i.e., main and sub-stations) within the prescribed response time goals and service needs of the community

Policy PF.3.4. Maintain emergency management operations to protect life and property during disaster events in natural hazard areas and built environments.

Policy PF.3.5. Support coordination of public safety and emergency management operations through mutual aid agreements.